

YEAR EIGHT CURRICULUM SUMMARY – SUMMER TERM 2020

<p>ENGLISH</p>	<p>During the course of this term, students will explore contemporary drama through the study of Willy Russell’s ‘Blood Brothers’. Lessons will focus on character analysis, themes of nature vs nurture, class and growing up. Students will be encouraged to look at the playwright’s techniques as well as his authorial intentions whilst referring to contextual issues. They will have a chance to write their own scripts as well as writing a literature essay.</p> <p>In the second half of the term, students will explore non-fiction writing focusing on the theme of education around the world. Students will also develop public speaking skills during this half-term through the form of a presentation.</p>
<p>MATHEMATICS</p>	<p>During the probability topic pupils will look at combinations and the chance of multiple events occurring, (e.g. flipping a coin and getting heads and rolling a die and scoring a 6). They will also further develop their use of ratio and proportion, applying this knowledge to a range of worded problems and situations.</p> <p>Pupils will further develop their algebra skills plotting and investigating linear graphs in the form $y=mx+c$, rearranging the equations to find the gradient and solving simultaneous equations graphically.</p>
<p>SCIENCE</p>	<p>The theme for this term is ‘Superheroes’ and students will be learning how electricity, magnetism, chemical reactions, rocks, and heat transfer all play a role within the lives of superheroes and villains. Practical investigations will include using data loggers to examine exothermic and endothermic reactions, planning fair tests into heat conduction and insulation, and identifying when a displacement reaction has occurred. Students will also study electrical circuits in depth, focusing on how current, voltage and resistance can be measured within both series and parallel circuits, as well as how adding or removing components such as switches, motors and buzzers can affect the current in circuits. The topic will conclude with Edexcel GCSE baseline examinations in biology, chemistry and physics, as well as a separate controlled assessment in which all students will plan, carry out and analyse a practical over a 3 week period.</p>
<p>ART</p>	<p>Students will continue the theme of Architecture this term. They will be researching surreal architects and developing their ideas in to surreal designs in order to produce mixed-media 3D collages of building facades. The artists they will study are Gaudi, Hundertwasser and Chinneck. This allows students to draw together their skills of perspective drawing, design, and mixing media.</p>
<p>COMPUTING</p>	<p>Students in Year Eight will be learning to code in python, an introduction to programming and how object orientated languages work. Students will begin to create their own programs and develop skills in logic, data manipulation and error handling. This term well will be building upon our introduction to python programming last year. Students will take the core coding skills they learn and build upon them. The focus will be on validation and verification of data, error handling, parsing and creating loops, counts and iteration. By the end of this year, students should be able to design, implement, test and evaluation and entire python project.</p>

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DRAMA	Students who have chosen drama as part of their Personalised Learning Programme will study the practitioner Stanislavski this term. They will learn about his theory and put it into practice. Stanislavski is renowned for Naturalism in theatre and students will explore what this means in performance terms by studying 'Stanislavski's system'.
FRENCH	Students will begin the term learning how to form the past tense in French with the key verb 'avoir'. They will produce an assessed piece of writing about what they did in the Easter Holidays and also learn how to talk about where they went using vocabulary to do with transport. In the second half of the term, students will spend a number of weeks creating a project about themselves using all three tenses. They will also take part in a variety of role-play situations in order to get them ready for the GCSE course next year.
GEOGRAPHY	Year Eight students will be conducting individual investigations to reflect their topic of glaciation. They will use self-direction to devise and re-shape their own research question about the role of ice in shaping our planet and/or the impact of climate change on glaciers. Their next topic will focus on population change in distant places such as Russia, and explore globalisation as one driver of global population change.
HISTORY	Students will complete their analysis of the impact of World War Two before turning their attention to the post-war world. Their investigation will be based on the issue: A whole new world? Britain in the later twentieth century and beyond. The final part of the term will allow pupils to explore local history.
MUSIC	Song Writing Students will develop their understanding of the common structures and techniques used in contemporary songs. They will explore a variety of chord sequences and select one of these as a starting point for composing their own song. The online music resource, Soundtrap, will be used to create and record the different parts of their song.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Building on work in Year Seven, the students will be able to progress further in the techniques of athletic events of their choice, together with some officiating and leadership skills. Students within games will work on improving the quality of the skills. They will have the opportunity to referee and PEE coach students to enhance the knowledge of the skills and improve communication and decision-making skills. Games-based lessons will focus on cricket and rounders. Later in the term options will be made available such as tennis, mixed rounders, handball, ultimate frisbee and softball.
PSHE	Year Eight will be studying sex and relationships education and healthy relationships. Thereafter, they will focus on economic wellbeing, learning about consumer rights and the concept of risk in terms of financial choices. They will finish the year with a look at their career aspirations and looking towards the start of their GCSE studies with a personal skills assessment.
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	Students will look at Buddhism and examine the key beliefs and practices of the faith. They will also answer the question 'Can war ever be justified?'

<p>TECHNOLOGY - includes COOKING AND NUTRITION AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY</p>	<p>In Design Technology students will be exploring a range of different art and design movements such as the Arts and Crafts to develop their own product which will be a moonlight. Students will predominantly be using a combination of metals and timbers and investigating their properties and further uses. In addition, students will explore a variety of manufacturing techniques and processes. Further on in the year, pupils will build upon and develop their CAD skills to design and make a product suitable for laser cutting. Students will debate the social and moral dilemmas of fast- moving technologies within our society. High expectations of independent skills are essential to time manage tasks and develop a sound knowledge of processes.</p> <p>In Cooking and Nutrition students will make a range of savoury dishes. Through observations, they are expected to plan a dish and write their own method to work from the following week. Students will have the option to substitute ingredients depending on their own needs or tastes. If students arrive without their ingredients prepared for practical lessons, it disrupts their programme of learning.</p>
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We encourage staff to be innovative within their subject areas and seize topical opportunities as they arise, therefore aspects of the taught curriculum may differ from the one which is published. Details of the personalised learning programme are available on the school website